

ESS Approve/Reject Leave Request

Purpose Use this procedure to approve or reject a leave request from an employee.

Important Notice about employee's with a 24/7 work schedule. They MUST submit SEPARATE REQUESTS for EACH DAY of leave taken. If a single request for multiple days is submitted, ESS will display the error "A separate leave request is required for each day."

Supervisors will monitor employee leave balances and approve or deny requests, ensuring the request is coded correctly in accordance with Chapter 357-31 and corresponds with the employee's work schedule.

Leave requests are processed every 15 minutes. On payroll processing days the program is run every hour on the ½ hour. You receive one email reminder (from TIDALSAP@wa.gov) for all requests submitted during the hour. Once you log into ESS you will have access to all pending leave requests so you can process them at the same time. Rather than relying on the email notification, it is recommended that you routinely log into ESS and view your worklist.



Helpful Hints

Employee Self Service is available to employees who are paid through the State of Washington's central payroll system. ESS does not apply to employees of higher education institutions.

You can go directly to the portal from any supported internet browser by entering this web address: https://wahrms.wa.gov. Depending on your operating system, the supported browsers are: Microsoft Internet Explorer 6, 7 or 8 and Mozilla Firefox 3.6. Other browsers may work, but they are not supported.



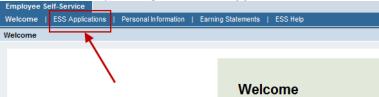
Procedure

1. Start all ESS actions by logging into the Washington State HRMS Portal.

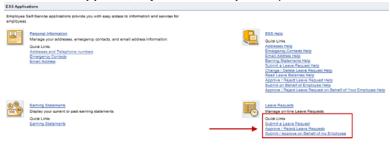


For help logging in see the "Logging In" procedure.

2. Start the action by clicking on the **ESS Applications** tab.



3. Click on the Approve/Reject Leave Requests quick link.



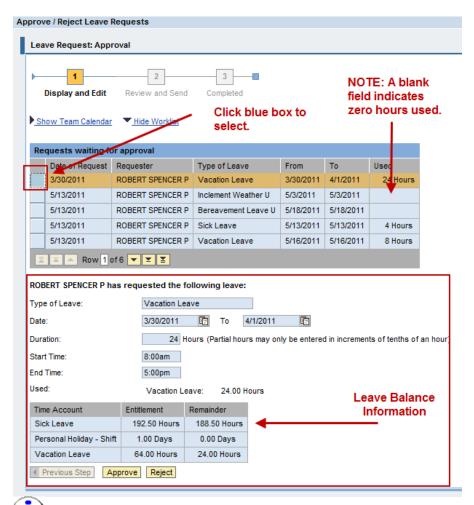
4. Display and Edit

Click on the blue box to the left of the leave request to select. Once selected, the leave types and associated balances for the employee will display at the bottom of the screen.



Leave may be submitted up to 30 days after it was taken (past), or up to 12 months in advance of taking it (future). For anything prior to that contact your payroll or time and attendance office for assistance.

Leave is displayed in the order the request was submitted by the employee. At this time you cannot sort the columns in the worklist table.



For an explanation of the *Time Account Table* see the "Read Leave Balances" procedure.

If you want to see a calendar overview of leave requests submitted by **all of your direct reports**, click the **Show Team Calendar** link. This will include requests that are approved, pending or a deletion is requested.

The current month displays using a color code for types of absences.

Blue-Absent



Scheduled absence or approved leave.

Light Blue - Multiple Entries

Multiple pending or approved leave requests on one day.

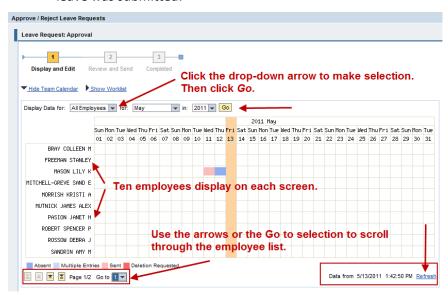
Pink – Sent

Pending leave request.

Red - Deletion Requested

Leave request which the employee has submitted for deletion.

Hint: Hover your cursor over the box/date for the employee to see what type of leave was submitted.



Hint: Use the Refresh link to update the records with the most current information. Department of Personnel processes leave requests every 15 minutes.

5. **Display and Edit**

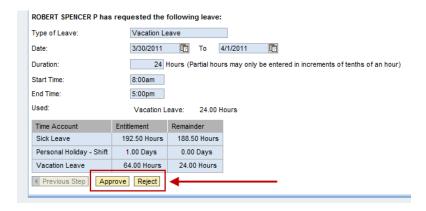
Click the **Approve** button to approve the request.

OR

Click the **Reject** button to reject the request. Once selected, the **Note for Requester** field appears. It is recommended to complete this field, the message will be sent back to the requestor.

Remember to follow your agency's leave procedure when submitting a request. Consult with your Human Resources office or Supervisor when using Shared Leave or Leave Without Pay.





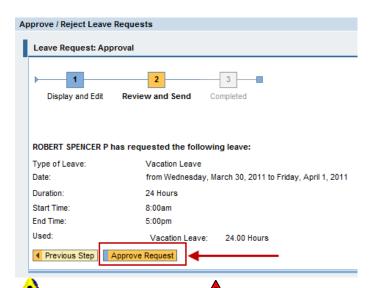
6. Review and Send

Review the entries made to ensure they correctly reflect your intended request. If you need to make a correction, click the **Previous Step** button.

If everything is correct, click the **Approve Request** button.



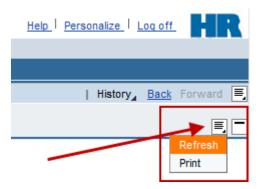
If you do not click the **Approve Request** button the request will not be saved.



If you receive this error "Please refresh and approve/reject the most current request" use the **Refresh** link to update your screen and view the current version of the leave request.

The *Refresh* link is located on the upper, right side of the screen. Click on the icon to display.

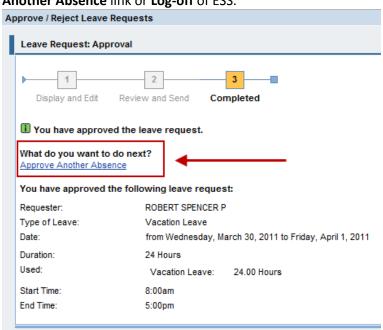




7. Completed

You have approved this Leave Request.

8. You have completed the action. If you want to approve another absence, click the **Approve Another Absence** link or **Log-off** of ESS.



After the leave request has been approved it will be posted to the state's payroll system (HRMS). Department of Personnel processes leave requests every 15 minutes and uses the employee's work email account to send a notification whether the request was approved or rejected.



Logging out correctly is important. When you are done working in ESS, exit the program by clicking on the "Log off" link in the upper right-hand corner of any screen. This permits the web browser to shutdown securely, protecting your personal information. DO NOT shutdown ESS by clicking on the "Close X" in the upper right-hand corner of the screen. This does not close your session down securely.

